

**ABSTRACT**

In recording a stream in a storage device, a packet containing a start part of encoded image data subjected to intra-frame coding is identified from the input stream of packets. Presence or absence information of the start part of the encoded image data subjected to intra-frame coding is added to the packet on the basis of an identified result. The added presence or absence information of the start part is counted in a recording unit, and the count result is added in the recording unit onto the storage device. The number of start parts of the encoded image data subjected to intra-frame coding in every recording unit, together with the recording unit, can be recorded on the storage device. In playback, the number of start parts recorded in a recording unit on the storage device is detected to identify the recording units to be reproduced.